

NEW MEXICO CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 August 3, 2020

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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING AUGUST 2, 2020

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Despite an active monsoon that delivered widespread rainfall during the week, drought conditions persisted in New Mexico, as precipitation remained below average in some locations and average temperatures were warmer than normal, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Ranchers in some areas were either holding onto more of their own hay production or were actively buying hay to help offset the lack of native feedstuff currently available, as well as to hedge against any potential winter shortages. Varying amounts of rain fell across Union County, where producers were working fields that were idle over the summer. The sorghum crop in the county was approximately 50 percent headed, and the hay grazer crop was nearly ready to harvest. In Curry County, ranchers were weaning cattle early due to poor grazing, with many planning to market soon depending on how much moisture is received during the next few weeks. Additionally, the corn crop in the area was reported in good condition with rapid development evident. The United States Drought Monitor released on July 30 indicated that extreme drought (D3) expanded to cover 13.8 percent of the State, representing the largest affected area since October 2, 2018, when 16.5 percent of New Mexico was classified in (D3). Severe drought (D2) was categorized across 31.8 percent of the State, an increase of 1.4 percentage points from last week. With the expansions of D3 and D2, the area classified in moderate drought (D1) dropped to 48.5 percent. Abnormal dryness plagued 5.9 percent of the State. Topsoil moisture levels were reported as 82 percent short to very short, compared with 80 percent last week, 71 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 60 percent. Pasture and range condition was reported as 47 percent poor to very poor, compared with 50 percent last week, 53 percent last year, and a 5-year average of 35 percent. Pecan nut set was reported as 5 percent light and 95 percent moderate, compared with 7 percent light, 91 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy last year. Hail damage across all crops was reported as 1 percent light and 1 percent moderate. Wind damage across all crops was reported as 10 percent light and 5 percent moderate. Hay and roughage supplies were reported as 8 percent very short, 33 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus, compared with 10 percent very short, 35 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus last week. Stock water supplies were reported as 23 percent very short, 41 percent short, and 36 percent adequate, compared with 20 percent very short, 40 percent short, and 40 percent adequate last week.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested.....	90	85	87	NA
3 rd cutting harvested.....	58	53	52	70
4 th cutting harvested.....	27	21	22	34
Chile				
Green harvested.....	9	1	9	12
Corn				
Silked.....	50	27	27	56
Doughed.....	1	NA	--	4
Cotton				
Squaring.....	87	81	75	80
Setting bolls.....	48	37	12	41
Peanuts				
Pegging.....	87	84	20	42
Winter wheat				
Harvested.....	96	94	94	NA
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	79	78	NA	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed.....	63	65	NA	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.3	6.1	6.8	6.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	33	35	25	20
Short.....	49	45	46	40
Adequate	18	20	29	37
Surplus	--	--	--	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	40	36	30	21
Short.....	48	49	45	37
Adequate	12	15	25	41
Surplus	--	--	--	1

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor.....	2	1	--	4
Poor.....	4	3	7	6
Fair.....	30	35	22	25
Good.....	48	50	58	53
Excellent.....	16	11	13	12
Chile				
Very poor.....	6	2	1	--
Poor.....	7	7	1	5
Fair.....	36	30	32	29
Good.....	51	55	60	49
Excellent.....	--	6	6	17
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	1	--	2
Poor.....	1	1	6	3
Fair.....	46	50	49	29
Good.....	26	20	30	44
Excellent.....	26	28	15	22
Cotton				
Very poor.....	5	2	--	2
Poor.....	20	17	18	12
Fair.....	52	50	44	40
Good.....	15	22	27	38
Excellent.....	8	9	11	8
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	18	15	19	10
Poor.....	29	35	34	25
Fair.....	37	35	34	37
Good.....	12	10	12	23
Excellent.....	4	5	1	5
Peanuts				
Very poor.....	5	5	--	1
Poor.....	17	14	7	6
Fair.....	43	48	62	65
Good.....	35	33	31	27
Excellent.....	--	--	--	1
Pecans				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	--
Poor.....	1	--	1	--
Fair.....	22	30	8	7
Good.....	69	66	45	64
Excellent.....	8	4	46	29
Cattle and calves				
Very poor.....	2	2	4	2
Poor.....	7	5	17	8
Fair.....	46	42	42	37
Good.....	40	42	28	46
Excellent.....	5	9	9	7
Sheep and lambs				
Very poor.....	14	5	5	11
Poor.....	12	11	12	10
Fair.....	37	37	44	27
Good.....	37	46	35	49
Excellent.....	--	1	4	3

NA – not available

(--)- zero